

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1 1. A group pickup system in a communication network having one or  
2 more servers, comprising:  
3 an invite request unit to invoke the group pickup system;  
4 a group pickup request unit responsive to said invite request unit to  
5 establish a connection to a group pickup destination to enable a caller station  
6 to be pickup up from said destination, said destination being a user selectable  
7 location located on any server anywhere within the network; and  
8 a retrieval request unit to connect a call pickup station with said caller  
9 station.

1 2. The system as recited in claim 1 further including an exception  
2 handler adapted to handle failures in the group pickup system.

1 3. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said call pickup party  
2 may be located on any server within the network.

1 4. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said parked caller may  
2 be picked up from any server within the network.

1 5. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said network failure  
2 may include excessive network congestion.

1 6. The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said network failure  
2 may include a vacant number.

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1           8. The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said user selectable  
2 park location is said destination's background task.

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1 9. A method for picking up a call in a group pickup system in a  
2 communication network having one or more servers, comprising the steps of:  
3 invoking the group pickup system;  
4 establishing a connection to a group pickup destination to enable  
5 said caller to be parked at said destination, said destination being a user  
6 selectable parking location located anywhere within the network; and  
7 connecting a call pickup party with said parked caller.

1           10. The method as recited in claim 9, further including the step of  
2   handling failures in the group pickup system.

1            11. The method as recited in claim 9, further including the step of  
2   picking up a caller from anywhere within the network.

1 303 } 12. A group pickup system in a communication network having one  
2 or more servers, comprising:  
3 means for invoking the group pickup system;  
4 means responsive to said invoking means for establishing a  
5 connection to a group pickup destination to enable said caller to be parked at  
6 said destination, said destination being a user selectable parking location  
7 located anywhere within the network; and  
8 means for connecting a call pickup party with said parked caller.

1 13. The system as recited in claim 12 further including means for  
2 handling failures in the group pickup system.

1 14. The system as recited in claim 12, further including means for  
2 picking up a parked caller from anywhere within the network.

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